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**COMICS**



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GROUP INC.

# DAREDEVIL

*THE MAN WITHOUT MERCY!*

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APPROVED  
BY THE  
COMICS  
CODE  
AUTHORITY



WEEKLY  
COMICS



A CHILDHOOD ACCIDENT STOLE HIS SIGHT, BUT, INCREDIBLY, IT ENDOWED YOUNG MATT MURDOCK WITH RADAR VISION AND HEIGHTENED SENSES. ARMED ONLY WITH HIS ATHLETIC PROWESS, BILLY CLUB, AND INDOMITABLE COURAGE, MATT BATTLES INJUSTICE AS A CRIMSON-CLAD GLADIATOR! STAN LEE PRESENTS . . . DAREDEVIL, THE MAN WITHOUT FEAR!



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DEFENSE?

HOW DO  
YOU  
PLEAD?



INNOCENT.

WITHOUT  
GUILT.



DEFENSE?

HOW  
DO YOU  
PLEAD?



GUILTY.

GUILTY  
OF EVERY-  
THING.

I DESERVE  
NOTHING...



NO!!

I'M NOT  
BLIND  
YET!!





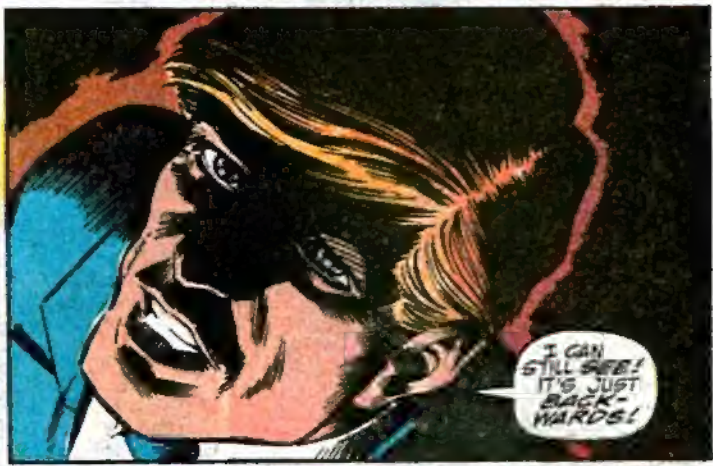
WHO ARE YOU?

I'M THE PART THAT'S STILL INNOCENT.



AND I'M NOT BLIND YET!

FLUMP

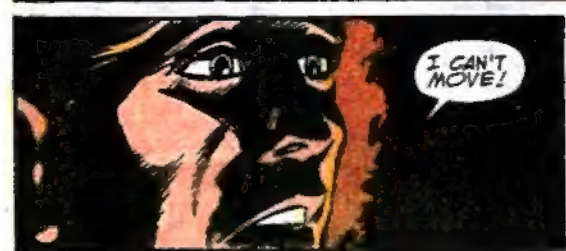


I CAN STILL SEE! IT'S JUST BACKWARDS!



JUSTICE IS IMPOSSIBLE UNLESS YOU'RE SURE YOU'RE RIGHT.

CLANG



I CAN'T MOVE!



WOULD SOME COFFEE GET YOU MOVING?





COME ON, GET UP AND SMELL THE COFFEE!

WAKE UP!

YEAH, THE SMELL WOKE ME.

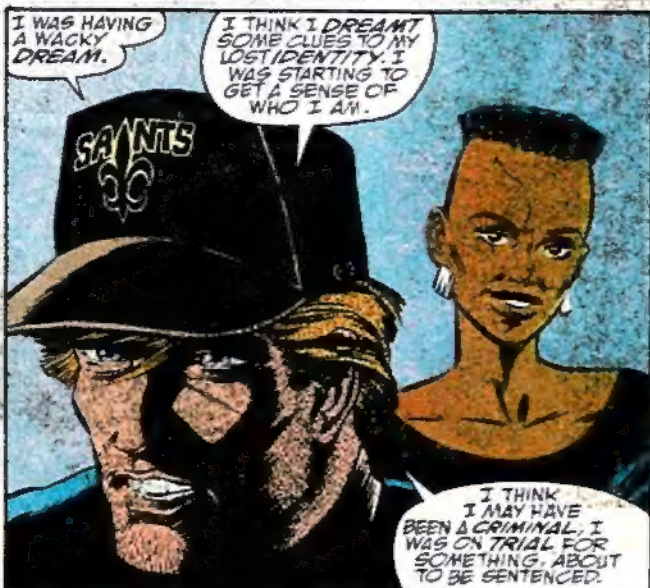
COME ON, JACK, GET UP AND GET DRESSED.



READY.

HA! YOU ALWAYS SLEEP IN YOUR CLOTHES?

YOU ALSO SNORE, Y'KNOW.



I WAS HAVING A WACKY DREAM.

I THINK I DREAMT SOME CLUES TO MY LOST IDENTITY. I WAS STARTING TO GET A SENSE OF WHO I AM.

I THINK I MAY HAVE BEEN A CRIMINAL, I WAS ON TRIAL FOR SOMETHING, ABOUT TO BE SENTENCED.



I GUESS I ESCAPED, PROBABLY JUST FRAGMENTS OF MEMORY.

WELL, WE'LL SOON FIND OUT IF YOUR DREAM COMES TRUE WHEN WE SEE HOW GOOD A THIEF YOU ARE.



NYLA, I CAN'T BELIEVE YOU LIVE IN THESE RUINS.

THIS--

--IS THE ONLY TRUTHFUL WAY TO LIVE.

ON A PILE OF RUBBLE AND DESTRUCTION?

EVERYBODY'S LIFE IS IN RUINS. I'M JUST ONE OF THE FEW THAT WILL ADMIT IT AND LOOK AT IT.

C'MON, LET'S GO.



AND SOON, SEVERAL  
BLOCKS AWAY FROM  
NEW YORK'S HELL'S  
KITCHEN...

MY SOURCE  
TELLS ME THE  
OWNER'S AWAY  
ON VACATION,  
AND THERE IS  
NO ALARM  
SYSTEM.

THE  
COMBINATION  
SAFE IS ONE PRO-  
BLEM, AND HOW TO  
GET UP TO THE  
TOP FLOOR IS ANOTHER.

NO PROBLEM.  
WE SCALE  
THE WALL.

YOU GOTTA  
BE  
KIDDIN'!

NYLA,  
DON'T YOU  
TRUST ME?

CRIPES!

WE'RE  
DOING  
IT!

NYLA, EVERY  
WALL HAS ITS  
FLAWS, AND  
THOSE ARE  
THE FOOTHOLDS  
TO CLIMB IT.

DOES THAT APPLY  
TO PEOPLE, TOO?

WE'LL  
GO THROUGH  
THIS SKY-  
LIGHT.

BUT IT'S  
BOLTED.

THE SIMPLE  
PRINCIPLE OF  
LEVERAGE  
SHOULD DO IT.

LEVERAGE.  
RIGHT.

I SHOULD'A  
STAYED AWAKE  
IN HIGH  
SCHOOL.

WHAT'S  
THE  
MATTER?

I DON'T  
KNOW.

LATELY  
I'VE NOTICED  
I CAN SENSE  
-DON'T LAUGH-  
I CAN SENSE  
HEART-  
BEATS.

SOME-  
ONE'S  
HERE.

STAY  
PUT.







I MAY HAVE BEEN A CRIMINAL, BUT I'M SURE NOW I WASN'T A THIEF.

WE WENT THROUGH THIS! I EXPLAINED HOW I OPERATE!

WE ONLY TAKE FROM THE SUPER-RICH, AND ONLY WHAT THEY WON'T EVEN MISS!

WE LIVE ON SOME, AND GIVE THE REST AWAY!

WE'RE-DISTRIBUTE WEALTH. IT'S OKAY.

**KLANG**

**NO.**

IF EVERYONE DID THIS, THERE WOULD BE ANARCHY.

JUSTICE IS NOT JUST BELIEVING YOU'RE RIGHT.

JUSTICE?

WHAT'S THAT? YOU KNOW WHOSE PLACE THIS IS? A WALL STREET YUPPIE WHO GOT RICH FAST ON JUNK BONDS!

HE MADE A FORTUNE ON A LEGAL SCAM. WHILE WELFARE IS CUT ON POOR HARLEM MOTHERS WITH NO HUSBANDS.

IS THAT YOUR JUSTICE?

IS JUSTICE THE CHOICE BETWEEN DEALING DRUGS FOR HUNDREDS A DAY, OR FLIPPING BURGERS FOR THREE FIFTY AN HOUR?

JUSTICE? WHAT'S THAT?

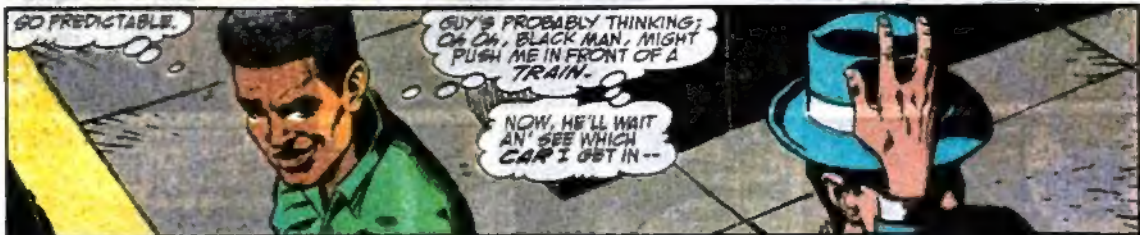
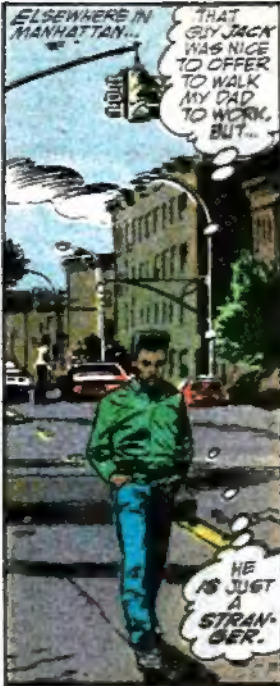
WHERE ARE YOU GOING?

I JUST REMEMBERED. I HAVE TO WALK A JUDGE TO WORK SO HE DOESN'T GET BEAT UP.

SAINTS

WHY DON'T YOU CALL THE POLICE. IN CASE I HURT THAT GUARD AND HE NEEDS HELP.





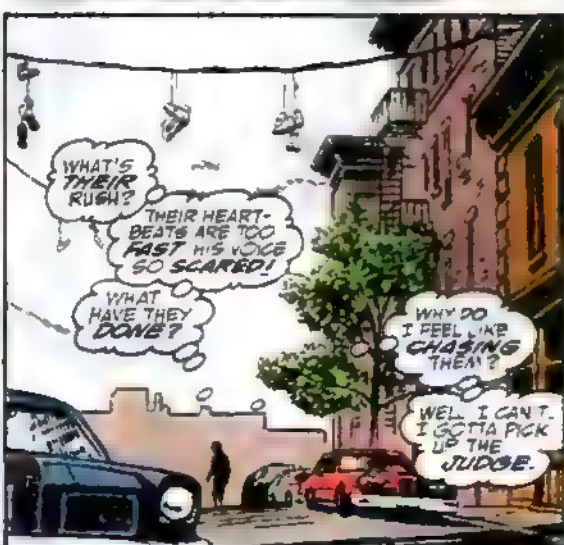
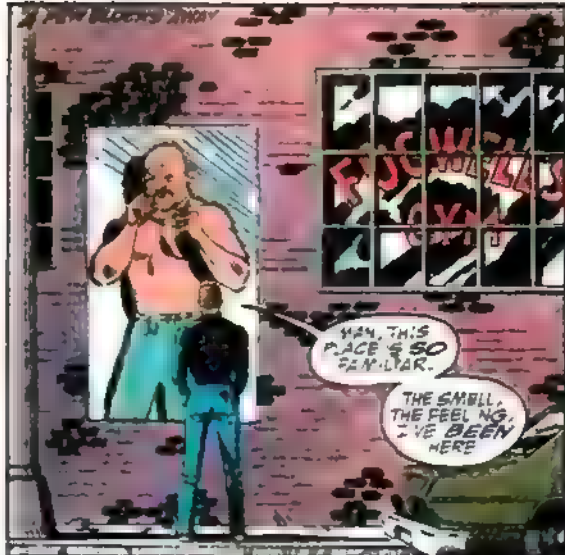




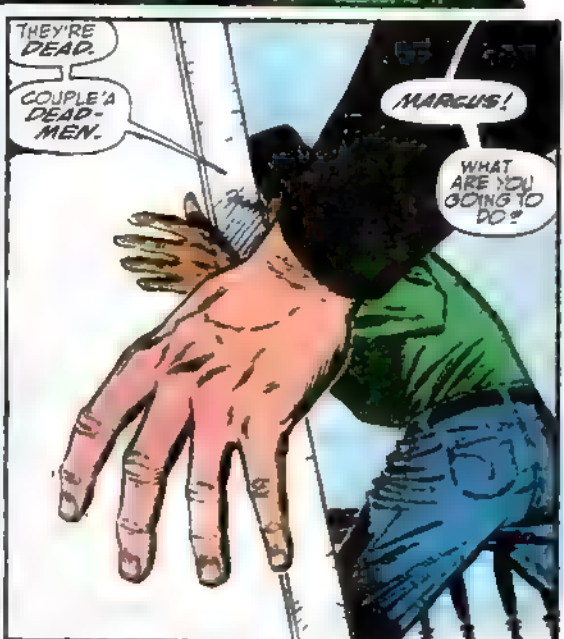




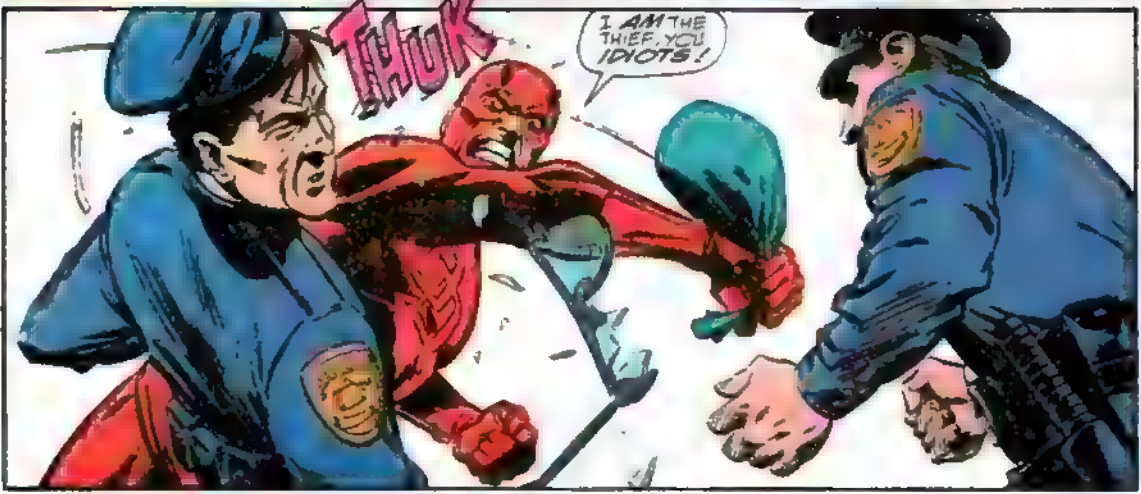
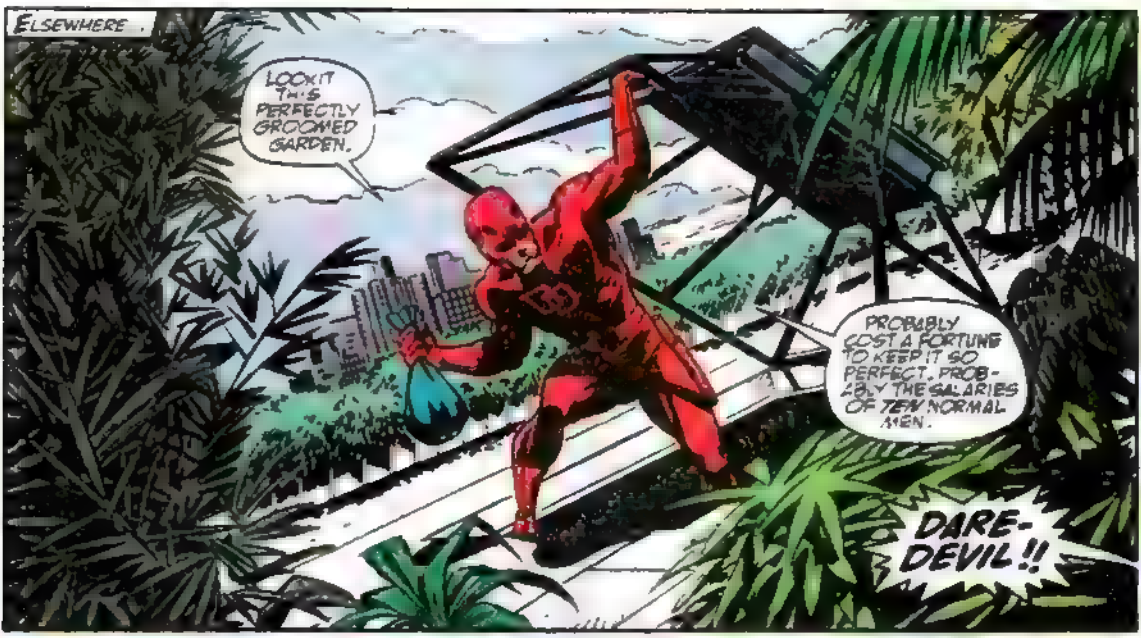




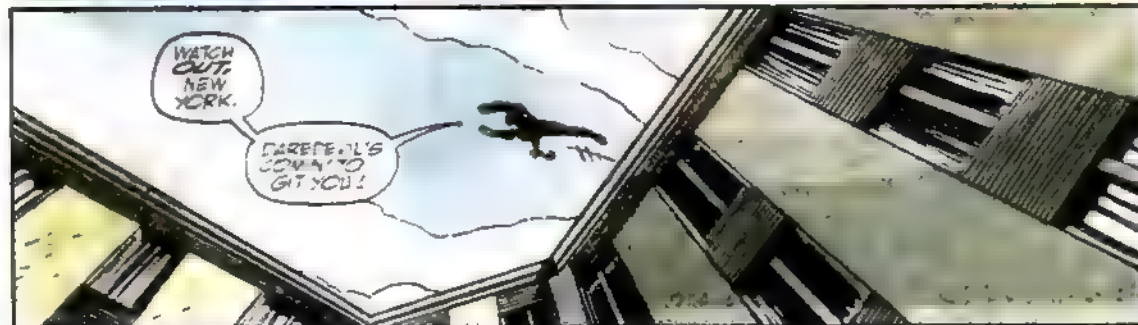
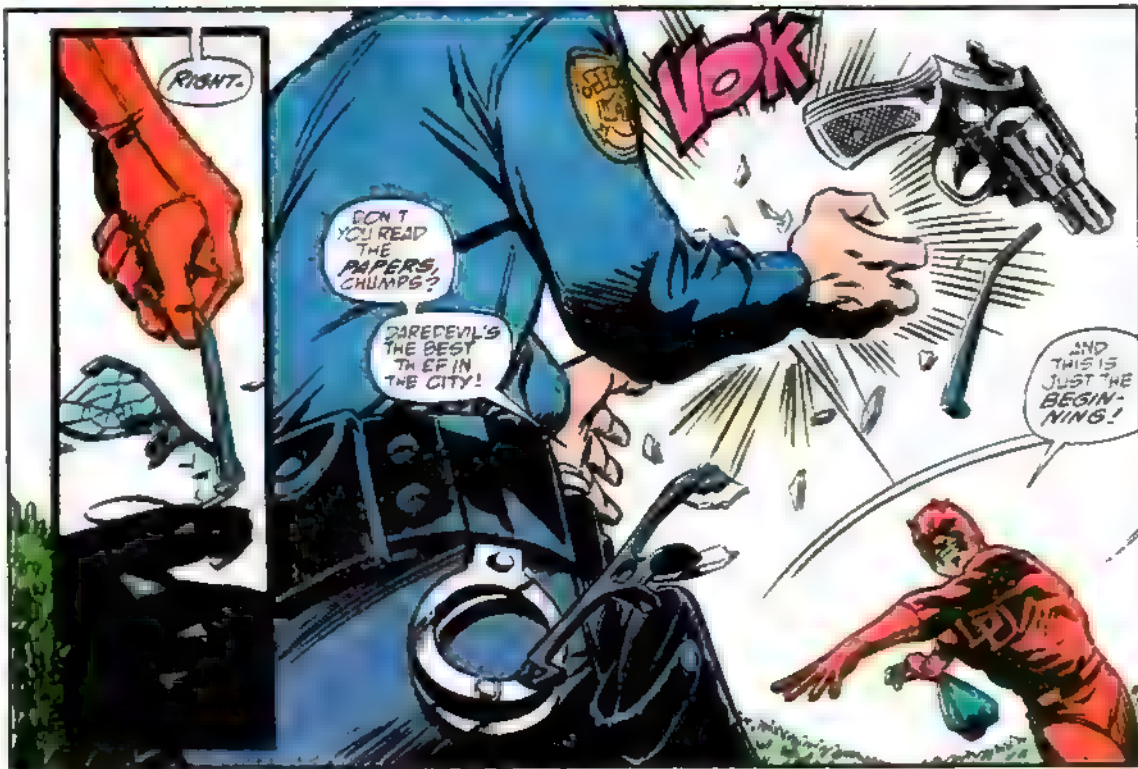
















NAH.

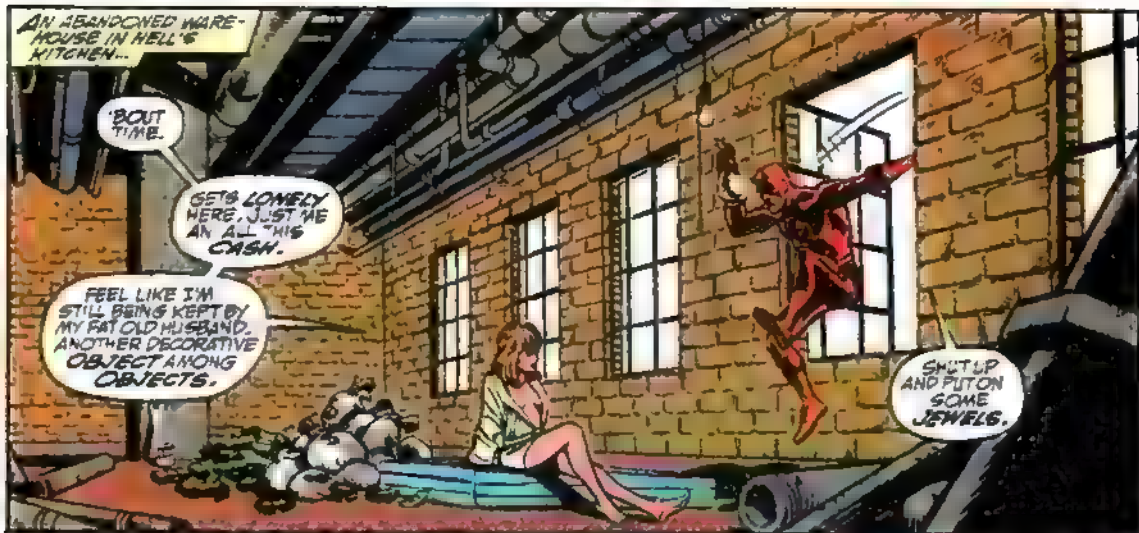
NEVER.

BEN  
URICH.  
UNKNOWN  
REPORTER  
COULDA GOTTEN  
FAMOUS YEARS  
AGO IF I HAD  
WRITTEN A STORY  
REVEALING  
DAREDEVIL'S  
IDENTITY.

PERHAPS IT'S  
TIME TO INVESTI-  
GATE ANOTHER  
UNPREDICTABLE  
STORY.  
IF DAREDEVIL'S  
BACK IN TOWN--

--SO S  
MATT  
MURDOCK.





AN ABANDONED WAREHOUSE IN HELL'S KITCHEN...

'BOUT TIME.

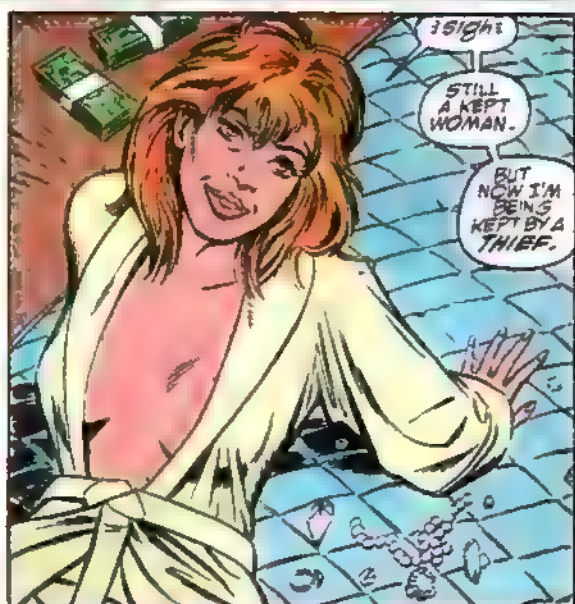
GETS LONELY HERE. JUST ME AND ALL THIS CASH.

FEEL LIKE I'M STILL BEING KEPT BY MY FAT OLD HUSBAND. ANOTHER DECORATIVE OBJECT AMONG OBJECTS.

SHUT UP AND PUT ON SOME JEWELS.



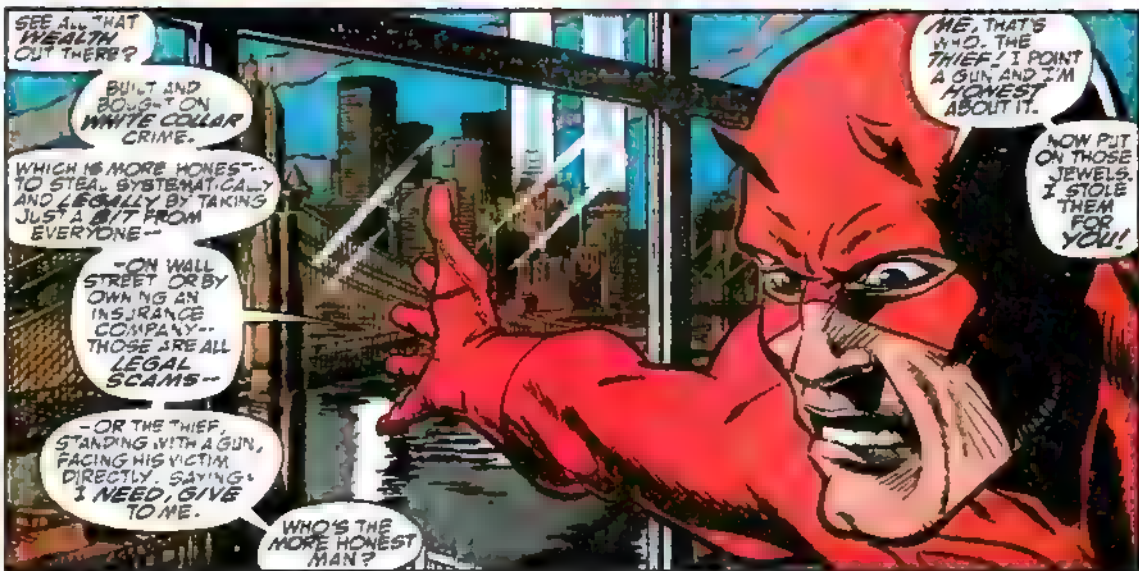
DAREDEVIL TAKES CARE OF HIS WOMEN.



I SIGHT

STILL A KEPT WOMAN.

BUT NOW I'M BEING KEPT BY A THIEF.



SEE ALL THAT WEALTH OUT THERE?

BUILT AND BOUGHT ON WHITE COLLAR CRIME.

WHICH IS MORE HONEST-- TO STEAL SYSTEMATICALLY AND LEGALLY BY TAKING JUST A BIT FROM EVERYONE--

--ON WALL STREET OR BY OWNING AN INSURANCE COMPANY-- THOSE ARE ALL LEGAL SCAMS--

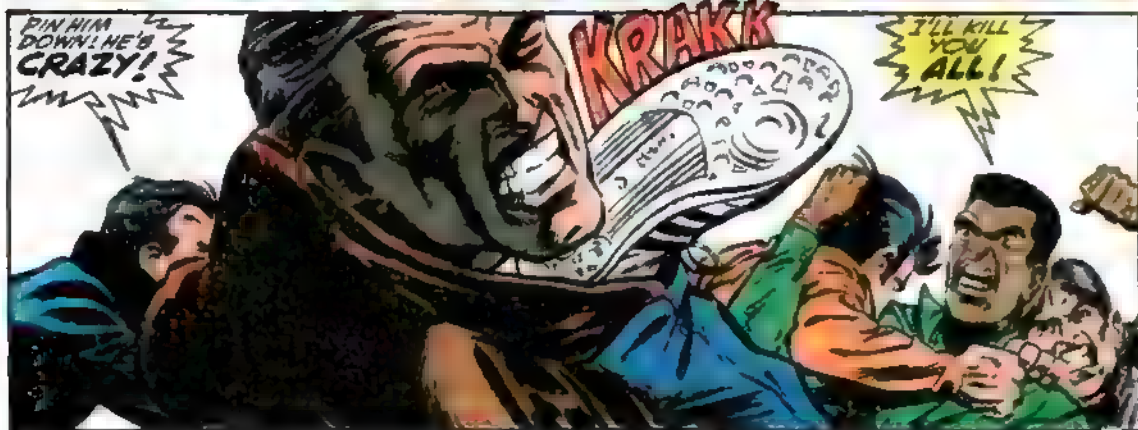
--OR THE THIEF, STANDING WITH A GUN, FACING HIS VICTIM DIRECTLY. SAYING, 'I NEED, GIVE TO ME.'

WHO'S THE MORE HONEST MAN?

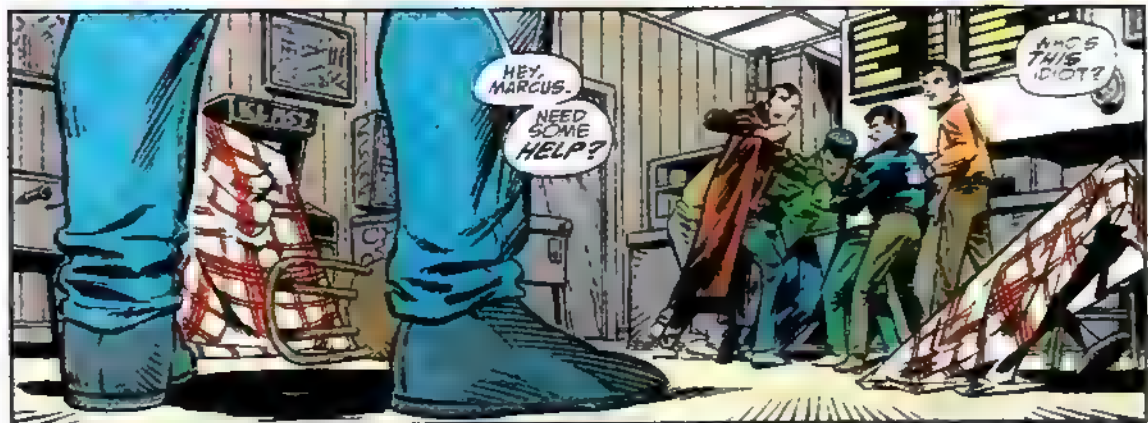
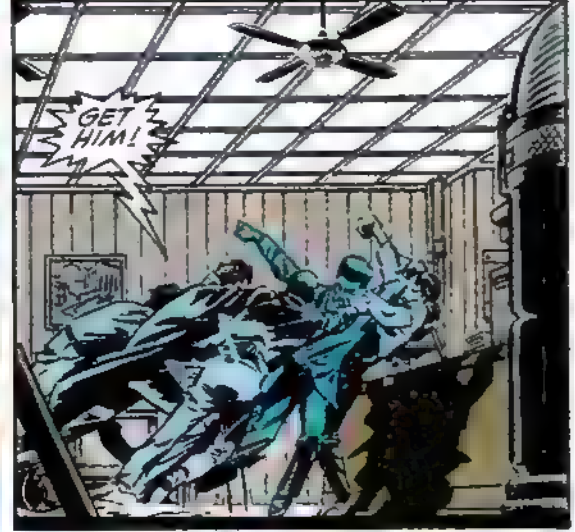
ME, THAT'S WHO. THE THIEF! I POINT A GUN AND I'M HONEST ABOUT IT.

NOW PUT ON THOSE JEWELS. I STOLE THEM FOR YOU!





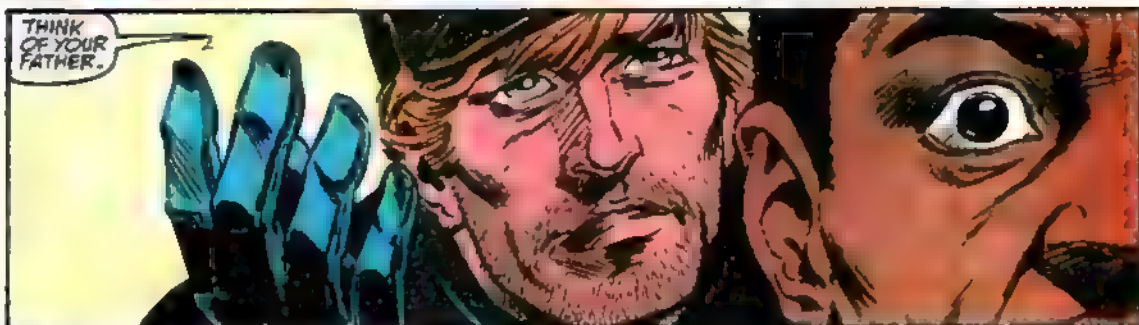














AND LATER, AT FOGWELLS...

WHAT KIN I DO FER YAT?

I WANT A JOB FIGHT-ING.

OH YOU DO HUH?

I DON'T NEED NO FIGHTERS. I GOT SO MANY GUYS WHO WANNA HIT SOMEBODY. I GOT SO MANY FIGHTERS, EVERYBODY WANTS TO GET PAID TO HIT SOMEBODY THESE DAYS.

I GOT HITTERS PILIN' UP ON MY DOOR-STEP.

UNLESS YOU GOT SOMETHING SPECIAL I DON'T NEED YOU.







# DAREDEVIL'S ADVOCATE

RALPH MACCHIO: EDITOR—MICHAEL HEISLER: ASSISTANT EDITOR  
C/O MARVEL COMICS—387 PARK AVENUE SOUTH—NEW YORK, NEW YORK—10016

ATTENTION CORRESPONDENTS: ALL LETTERS TO BE CONSIDERED FOR PUBLICATION MUST INCLUDE YOUR NAME AND ADDRESS THOUGH WE WILL WITHHOLD THAT INFO BY REQUEST.

Before we get to the letters on DAREDEVIL #280, let's take a look at a couple of letters about this year's DAREDEVIL annual:

Dear Crew,

DAREDEVIL ANNUAL #6 was the best annual I have read in years under any title.

Gregory Wright turned in four excellent tales that were complemented in each case by fine artwork. I think Cam Kennedy did a particularly splendid job as did Michael Bair. I hope I'll get to see these two talented professionals on a regular ride soon.

I don't believe it's a coincidence that my two favorite stories were those in which Gregory also did the colors. Great job!

This annual (THE PUNISHER ANNUAL #3 was well done too) was the most welcome for two reasons: 1) It comes at the heels of two consecutive years in which Marvel has contrived to produce mega-crossovers among the annuals (sales up perhaps, but quality way down for sure); 2) I finally got to see Daredevil back on his own turf (Matt Murdock even made a cameo appearance).

Let's hope two things emerge from all this. First: Daredevil and Matt Murdock stay at home to rebuild their lives. Second, Marvel frees its rich talents from the confines of forced crossovers to once again produce annuals worth waiting for.

For the record, the crossover experiment was very worthwhile and demonstrates your undying search for excellence. The resulting mini-crossover among the titles with greatest synergy (e.g., crossovers among your solo heroes on one hand and among mutant titles on the other), so far, seems to be a good formula that gives the creative teams enough room to strut their stuff.

It is also good to see two annuals stand tall on the strength of the main heroes (Daredevil and Punisher in these two cases), rather than relying on guest appearances.

So far, then, it looks like Marvel's line-up of 1990 annuals will be worth the wait and the price.

Jan C. Childress  
82 Piedmont St.  
Brooklyn, NY 11201

We are glad that you enjoyed this year's Annual and hope that you liked the conclusion to the "Lifeform" storyline in the pages of the SILVER SURFER ANNUAL. As for your remarks about Marvel doing "forced" crossovers, we have to disagree. The reason that Marvel does crossovers is simple: the fans ask to see most if not all of our heroes team up and appear in the same story together. While some crossovers are better received by the fans than others, we do our best to make sure the story and art are of superior quality.

Dear Sir,

I have a question, maybe, you can clear up for me? While placing my comic collection in my computer, I notice that there is no DAREDEVIL ANNUAL #5 in my collection. The year on #4 says 1989 and #6 says 1990. Could #5 have been released sometime in between as a special or just not at all?

Douglas R. Woodruff  
1106 South Russell  
Santa Maria, CA 93454

Well, Douglas, it's like this. We were so overjoyed that the powers that be deemed Daredevil worthy of a brand new annual for the

first time in several years that we goofed. Yup, believe it. Last year's DAREDEVIL ANNUAL should have been numbered as #5, not #4. We hope this clears up the matter.

Now, without further delay, here are your fellow readers' thoughts on DAREDEVIL #280.

Dear Whoever,

Re: DAREDEVIL #280—the story.

Fantastic! Each of the characters in the latest storyline, Daredevil, the Inhumans, and Number Nine all visit their perspective of heaven/hell. Ann Nocenti's stories are dark and grim (as this case may be) but very fascinating.

Re: DAREDEVIL #280—pencil and inks.

I've always been a fan of John Romita, Jr.'s art. His work in IRON MAN and SPIDER-MAN titles was/is fabulous. His technique is, or seems to be, different in this book. It's darker and more abstract—I love it! The inks are/were a perfect complement to the pencils. What other work has Williamson done?

Re: DAREDEVIL #280—all in all.

Great! Keep it up!

Aaron Wood  
(Address withheld by request)

If you love what John Romita, Jr. is doing in DAREDEVIL then you're going to flip over his work on IRON MAN. That's right, our very own penciler extraordinaire has added old Shell Head to his resume for a second time. And this time he has teamed up with none other than John Byrne for ARMOR WARS II. Check it out, we know you'll love it. As for Al Williamson, we certainly agree with you about how much his inks add to John Romita, Jr.'s pencils. Al has been penciling and inking in the comic book industry since he was seventeen years old! And has won numerous awards. His past credits include Marvel's STAR WARS, WOLVERINE, and THE NEW WARRIORS, just to name a few.

Dear Devil Maken,

Ms. Nocenti, I wouldn't be surprised if you won the Best Writer award because of your present work in DAREDEVIL. I wouldn't be surprised if DAREDEVIL also won in the Best Art team category.

I started to collect DAREDEVIL again because of the first "Blackheart" story. Believe it or not, that story sent a chill up my spine! I began my search for back issues and I must commend you on your great work in the Typhoid Mary saga. You and the other devil-makers did a wonderful job.

Mr. Romita and Mr. Williamson have created the perfect image of evil in Mephisto. Totally alien! Absolutely abhorrent! The artwork is ideal for any DAREDEVIL story. Daredevil may end up in hell or Hell's Kitchen, and the art team would pull it off. The fight scenes don't look like they're flowing, but they look stunning in their own right way.

I would also like to applaud Christie Scheele's colors. Ms. Scheele's hues are dark and forbidding. Perfect! Whether it be in a flaming abyss or some littered back street alley, Scheele succeeds in super-emphasizing the scene.

Mephisto has taken a liking to Matt Murdock, and Daredevil is not having fun in Mephisto's little game. "Twilight of the Idols" was interesting. Who would dare make hellfire other than

Mephisto? That's easy. Daredevil.

Benedict Tan  
16 Maranaw St. La Vista  
Loyola Heights, Quezon City 1108  
Philippines

Dear Editors,

I think the storyline about the Inhumans and Number Nine was terrific!!! But I do have a few questions. Where is Shogun? When is Doctor Doom and Kingpin going to come back into the act?

One last thing. Did Daredevil kill Bullseye? If he did or he didn't please tell me what happened.

Korey Mitchell  
10040 So. Paxton  
Chicago, IL 60617

Shogun is probably cleaning his double barrels waiting to strike at Daredevil when he least expects it. As for Doctor Doom and the Kingpin, only time and Ann Nocenti will tell. And no, Daredevil did not kill Bullseye. If you rush out to your local comic shop you still might be able to get the "Streets of Poison" issues of CAPTAIN AMERICA that featured the Kingpin and the long-awaited return of Bullseye.

Dear Ralph,

Just finished reading issue #280 and that old question has reoccurred. Where is Ann Nocenti going with this story? With each issue she sends Daredevil along an increasingly bizarre path.

Ann's partnership with John Romita, Jr. has been one of the most interesting I have seen in comic books for a long time. They have given a strange "feel" to the book which I find refreshing. I cannot remember when I have been so eager for thirty days to elapse.

There is one thing, however, which I miss in the current issues of DAREDEVIL, and that is New York City and its people which give the romance to the DAREDEVIL title.

However, given the excellence of the work currently being produced, I am prepared to be patient.

Ian Farling  
Ashcroft Road  
Fromby Merseyside  
England

Stop worrying, Ian. Daredevil has returned to the city!

Gentle Persons,

I have been there since Day (Issue) One. Two hundred and eighty issues later . . . Most interesting.

Jeff Korber  
Encinitas, CA 92024

Before we go, we'd like to thank Greg Capullo and Doug Haslewood for a terrific pinch-hit job this issue. Next month we welcome back our regular pinch-hitter Lee Weeks and in-it-for-the-long-haul inker Al Williamson. See you in thirty!



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Potentially per-  
veying a plethora  
of party, prattled  
pictures to my peerless pal!

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*Pledged to scan all series great and small...*